

081811Z NOV 89

3. [REDACTED] FOLLOWING THE 31 OCTOBER EXPLOSION AT FENASTRAS HEADQUARTERS, NATIONAL POLICE BOMB SQUAD TECHNICIANS CONDUCTED A PERIPHERAL INVESTIGATION OF THE BLAST. [REDACTED] COMMENT: FENASTRAS REPRESENTATIVES DENIED THE BOMB SQUAD DIRECT ACCESS TO THE SCENE. IN ADDITION, FENASTRAS REPRESENTATIVES DENIED ENTRY TO A TEAM OF DETECTIVES FROM THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATION UNIT AND TO A TEAM FROM THE NATIONAL POLICE INVESTIGATION BATTALION.) THE BOMB SQUAD OBSERVED THAT THE BOMB DETONATED ON THE CEMENT PASSAGEWAY LOCATED BETWEEN THE MAIN ENTRANCE DRIVEWAY, AND THE OUTER MASONRY WALL OF THE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING. THE BOMB SQUAD ESTIMATED THE CRATER CAUSED BY THE EXPLOSION TO BE 80 CENTIMETERS IN DIAMETER AND 30 CENTIMETERS DEEP. THE BLAST EXPANSION WAVE CAUSED INTERIOR DAMAGE TO THE TWO-STORY BUILDING AND TO THE BUILDING'S ROOF. 24

4. THE BLAST HURLED DEBRIS FROM THE OUTER MASONRY WALL AWAY FROM THE BUILDING AND INTO THE STREET. THE STEEL SLIDING DRIVEWAY GATE WAS ALSO HURLED APPROXIMATELY SIX METERS ACROSS THE STREET. IN ADDITION, THE BLAST THREW A PICK-UP TRUCK, WHICH HAD BEEN PARKED IN FRONT OF FENASTRAS, TWO METERS ACROSS THE STREET. THE BLAST ALSO CAUSED DAMAGE TO BUILDINGS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE FENASTRAS HEADQUARTERS. BASED ON THE EXTENSIVE PROPERTY DAMAGES AND THE SIZE OF THE CRATER, THE BOMB SQUAD TECHNICIANS DEDUCED THAT THE EXPLOSION WAS CAUSED BY A BOMB COMPOSED OF APPROXIMATELY 20 ROUNDS OF HIGH EXPLOSIVES, PROBABLY TNT.

5. THE BOMB SQUAD ALSO INTERVIEWED A STREET VENDOR, VICTOR MANUEL ((RAMIREZ)), WHO CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN TWO MALES APPROACH THE STEEL GATE TO THE FENASTRAS DRIVEWAY PRIOR TO THE EXPLOSION. ACCORDING TO RAMIREZ, THE GATE WAS PARTIALLY OPENED. THE FIRST MALE REMAINED OUTSIDE OF THE DRIVEWAY AND THE SECOND MALE, WHO WAS CARRYING A CLOTH BAG, BENT DOWN AND DEPOSITED THE BAG INSIDE THE GATE ON THE DRIVEWAY. RAMIREZ CLAIMED THAT SOON THEREAFTER HE SAW A SMALL PUFF OF SMOKE WHERE THE SECOND MALE WAS STANDING. ACCORDING TO RAMIREZ, THE MEN THEN FLED THE AREA.

Approved for Release
NOV 1993

HE CLAIMED THAT ONE OF THE MEN ALERTED PASSERSBY THAT A BOMB WAS SET TO GO OFF. [REDACTED] COMMENT: BOMB SQUAD TECHNICIANS HAVE ATTEMPTED TO GATHER MORE INFORMATION FROM RAMIREZ, BUT THEY HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO LOCATE HIM. ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL POLICE, OTHER PEOPLE AT THE SCENE OF THE BLAST HAVE ALSO HEARD THIS STORY ABOUT THE TWO MEN.)

6. AS A RESULT OF THE BOMBING, NINE PEOPLE WERE KILLED AND OVER 50 WOUNDED. THOSE KILLED WERE JOSE DANIEL ((LOPEZ)) MELENDEZ, THE FENASTRAS SECRETARY OF CONFLICTS; VICENTE SALVADOR ((MELGAR)), AN ANDA WORKERS UNION (SETA) MEMBER; ROSA HILDA ((SARAVIA)) DE ELIAS, A FENASTRAS MEMBER; JULIA TATIANA ((MENDOZA)) AGUIRRE, A FENASTRAS MEMBER; LUIS EDGARDO ((VASQUEZ)) MARQUEZ, A FENASTRAS MEMBER; FEBE ELIZABETH ((VELASQUEZ)) RAMIREZ, THE FENASTRAS SECRETARY OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND AN UNITS AND MPTL MEMBER; RICARDO HUMBERTO ((CESTONI)), VELASQUEZ' HUSBAND; ANA PATRICIA ((CHACON)), A 13-YEAR-OLD; CARMEN CATALINA ((HERNANDEZ)) RAMOS, AN UNITS MEMBER; AND JUAN MANUEL ((TEJADA)) ROSALES, AN UNITS MEMBER.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

TOR: 191544Z OCT 90

191544Z OCT 90

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] - FMLN INFILTRATOR WITH
INFORMATION ON FENASTRAS BOMBING

[REDACTED]

2. IN EARLY OCTOBER 1990, THE SALVADORAN NATIONAL GUARD (GN) RECEIVED UNCONFIRMED HUMAN SOURCE INFORMATION THAT THE IMMEDIATE REACTION BATTALION (BIRI) "BELLOSO" HAD 26 FMLN INFILTRATORS WITHIN ITS RANKS. THE SOURCE WAS UNABLE TO PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL DETAILS. THE GN SUBSEQUENTLY PASSED THIS INFORMATION TO BIRI BELLOSO.

3. ON 15 OCTOBER 1990, WHILE ON OPERATIONS IN CHALATENANGO DEPARTMENT, A BIRI BELLOSO SOLDIER, SAUL ERNESTO ((ARIAS)) FERRUFFINO, WAS REPORTED MISSING BY HIS UNIT. HE WAS CAPTURED TWO HOURS LATER BY ANOTHER BIRI BELLOSO UNIT. AFTER FIRST CLAIMING HE HAD MERELY BEEN LOST, ARIAS LATER ADMITTED THAT HE HAD BEEN TRYING TO DESERT.

4. BECAUSE OF THE GN REPORT, THE BIRI BELLOSO COMMANDER DECIDED TO SEND ARIAS TO THE GN FOR INVESTIGATION/INTERROGATION. DURING QUESTIONING BY THE GN, ARIAS MAINTAINED THAT HE HAD BEEN TRYING TO DESERT BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN MISTREATED BY HIS SERGEANT. THE GN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER (D-2) ORDERED A POLYGRAPH FOR ARIAS RE POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT WITH THE INSURGENTS. ARIAS FAILED THIS POLYGRAPH.

5. WHILE THE POLYGRAPHER WHO ADMINISTERED THE TEST LEFT THE ROOM TO WRITE UP THE REPORT, THE OTHER POLYGRAPHER ENTERED THE ROOM AND INTRODUCED HIMSELF AS A MEMBER OF A "HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION" AND ADVISED ARIAS TO TELL HIM THE TRUTH. ARIAS THEN ADMITTED THAT HE JOINED THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF SALVADORAN TRADE UNIONS (FENASTRAS) IN JANUARY 1989 AND LATER BECAME AFFILIATED WITH THE PRTC. HE SAID THAT IN APRIL 1990 TWO INSURGENTS ("CARLOS" AND "WALTER") GAVE HIM THE MISSION OF INFILTRATING THE BIRI BELLOSO, FOR WHICH THEY WOULD PAY HIM 1,300 COLONES A MONTH.

6. FOLLOWING THIS ADMISSION, ARIAS WAS SENT BACK TO THE GN INTERROGATORS. HE THEN CONFESSED THE FOLLOWING:

AT 1120 HOURS 31 OCTOBER 1989 IN THE COMPANY OF OTHER PRTC MEMBERS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF EL SALVADOR, "JORGE," "ANA," "WALTER," "CARLOS," "SILVIA," AND "ROSA," HE WENT TO FENASTRAS HQS WHERE CARLOS AND ROSA ENTERED AND PLACED A BOMB IN THE HQS WHILE THE REMAINDER OF THE GROUP PROVIDED "SECURITY" OUTSIDE. CARLOS WAS CARRYING A BLACK BRIEFCASE OR SMALL SUITCASE, IN WHICH THE BOMB WAS CONCEALED. IMMEDIATELY AFTER PLACING THE BOMB, THEY WENT TO THE UNIVERSITY. ARIAS STATES HE DOES NOT KNOW FOR WHAT REASONS THE BOMB WAS PLACED AT FENASTRAS, NOR WHO ORDERED IT.

7. THE GN SUBSEQUENTLY ADMINISTERED A SECOND POLYGRAPH WHICH SHOWED NO DECEPTION INDICATED RE QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE VERACITY

[REDACTED]

OF ARIAS' STATEMENTS THAT THE INSURGENTS PLACED THE BOMB. THERE WAS DECEPTION INDICATED TO A QUESTION AS TO WHETHER ARIAS WAS DIRECTLY INVOLVED (OTHER THAN PROVIDING SECURITY) IN THE BOMBING (HE ANSWERED NO).

[REDACTED]

9. [REDACTED] ADVISED THE LEGAL ATTACHE IN GENERAL TERMS OF THIS INFORMATION. HE INTENDS TO SUGGEST THAT THE CASE BE TURNED OVER TO THE GOES, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE SPECIAL INVESTIGATION UNIT (SIU). THE LEGAL ATTACHE NOTED THAT AN FBI POLYGRAPH TEAM WILL VISIT SAN SALVADOR IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND COULD POSSIBLY BE USED IN THIS CASE.

[REDACTED]
